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THE HEBREW CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL.

MORGAN PARK, ILL.

WILLIAM R. HARPER, PH. D., PRINCIPAL.

A. GENERAL INFORMATION.

1. Aim. — THE HEBREW CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL gives instruction in Hebrew (1) to students about to enter the theological seminary; (2) to ministers engaged in the active work of the pastorate; (3) to others who, for any reason, desire such instruction.

Studies in the School are carried on at home, by a regular correspondence with a careful instructor. Such instruction by correspondence may not be superior to oral instruction, but the experience of many has proved it to be most valuable and practical. Such a system of study brings to the doors of the great body of busy ministers and laymen opportunities for Biblical culture which formerly were confined to a selected few.

2. The Plan.—A printed Lesson-paper is mailed to the student each week. This Lesson-paper assigns the tasks which are to be performed, furnishes assistance and suggestions, and contains questions on the Lesson, thus guiding the work of the student as though he were in the recitation-room. Every week the student mails to the Instructor a *recitation-paper*, on which he has written out (1) the tasks assigned in the printed Lesson; (2) the answers to such questions as may be asked therein, and (3) any questions or difficulties which may have occurred to him in the study of the Lesson. This recitation-paper is promptly returned with the errors in it corrected, and with such suggestions as it may be thought best to offer. In this manner each Lesson in the course is studied and the results of the study submitted to the Instructor for correction, criticism, and suggestion. It can not be doubted that the profit to be derived from such work is second only to that which is received from actual contact with the living teacher.

3. Tuition-fee.—The tuition-fee for Instruction and Lesson-papers is placed at $10.00 a year, payable semi-annually in advance. This includes forty Lessons. If the entire number is not taken within the year, the responsibility lies with the student. No change from this policy is made except

1) in cases of sickness; and

2) when the student expressly declares before receiving the first Lesson that he desires the Lessons at the rate of *one in two weeks*.

4. The Chautauqua School of Theology.— The Principal of the HEBREW CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL being likewise Dean of the Department of Hebrew and Old Testament Literature in the "Chautauqua School of Theology," members of the latter School who study in the department of Hebrew, do their Hebrew work according to the plans announced above.

5. Certificate. — At the end of each Course, those who have completed the work of that Course will receive a *Certificate* to that effect. To those who have completed the Advanced Course there will be given a *Diploma*.

6. Enrollment.—Students may be enrolled in the School at any time during the year. There are no classes, each student pursuing his work at home and advancing as rapidly or as slowly as desired. Each applicant for membership is furnished with an Application Form, which he is expected to fill out and return to the Principal, and on receipt of this the necessary books and papers are sent to him.

B. COURSES OF INSTRUCTION.

Four distinct Courses of Instruction have been organized. These are named for convenience: Elementary, Intermediate, Progressive, Advanced. Each Course consists of *forty Lessons*, and, unless a special arrangement is made, one Lesson is to be taken each week.

1. The Elementary Course.

1. *For whom intended.* The **Elementary Course** is intended chiefly for those who have never studied Hebrew. It is, however, pursued also by quite a number who have, at one time or another, paid some attention to the language, but feel that, in order to make any real progress, it is better for them to lay the foundation anew.

2. *The Work.* The work of this Course is as follows:

(1) The thorough mastery of the Hebrew of the first four chapters of Genesis.

(2) The study of the most important principles of the language, *in connection with these four chapters.*

(3) The mastery of these principles as systematized and arranged in the grammar.

(4) The memorizing of Hebrew words which occur above two hundred times —in all about *two hundred.*

(5) The critical translation and word-analysis of the fifth and sixth chapters of Genesis.

3. *The Lesson-Paper.* Each Lesson-paper consists of four printed pages of Notes, Suggestions and Questions, including (1) A Review-lesson; (2) Grammatical Notes on a few verses; (3) Observations; (4) Grammar-lesson; (5) Word-lesson; (6) Verses to be memorized; (7) Recitation-lesson. Questions of Syntax, Lexicographical Notes and Reading unpointed Hebrew are introduced as often as is deemed wise.

4. *The Books.* (1) A Hebrew Manual ($1.00); (2) "Elements of Hebrew," fifth edition ($2.00); (3) "Hebrew Vocabularies," ($1.25).

2. The Intermediate Course.

1. *For whom intended.* Many ministers, once proficient in Hebrew, have grown so "rusty" that all their former acquaintance with the language seems to have forsaken them. For these, as well as for those who have completed the Elementary Course, there has been arranged the **Intermediate Course.**

2. *The Work.* The work of this Course is as follows.

(1) The critical study and translation of Genesis I.–XX.

(2) The study of the most important principles of the grammar,—the amount furnished in the Principal's "Elements of Hebrew."

(3) The Inductive study of the most common principles of Syntax, in connection with the subject-matter translated.

(4) The memorizing of the verbs which occur 50-200 times,—in all about *two hundred and fifty words.*

(5) The memorizing of one or two verses of a familiar chapter each week.

3. *The Lesson-Paper.* Each Lesson-paper consists of four printed pages of Notes, Suggestions and Questions, including (1) Inductive Notes, based on the passage translated; (2) Grammatical Notes upon the passage translated, with reference to the Principal's "Elements of Hebrew;" (3) Principles of Syntax; (4) Lexicographical Notes; (5) Grammar-lesson; (6) Word-lesson, in the Principal's "Hebrew Vocabularies;" (7) Verses to be memorized, e. g., in Exodus I., or XX.; (8) Recitation-lesson.

4. *The Books.* (1) Hebrew Bible ($2.25), or Baer & Delitzsch's Genesis (50 cents); (2) "Elements of Hebrew," ($2.00); (3) "Hebrew Lexicon," Gesenius's ($5.75) or Mitchell's Davies' ($3.25); (4) "Hebrew Vocabularies," ($1.25).

3. The Progressive Course.

1. *For whom intended.* Besides furnishing an opportunity for those who have finished the work of the preceding Courses to continue their study, the **Progressive Course** is intended to meet the wants of a large number of ministers who have a fair knowledge of the language, but desire the help and stimulus of an organized course of study, in prosecuting their work still further.

2. *The Work.* The work of this Course is as follows.

(1) The critical translation and study of Exodus I.–XXIV.

(2) The examination of questions of Geography, Archæology, Exegesis, etc., which arise in the study of these chapters.

(3) The study of the grammar in its details, Gesenius and Green being used as text-books.

(4) The memorizing of the verbs which occur 25–50 times, and of the nouns which occur 50–100 times—in all about *three hundred words.*

3. *The Lesson-Paper.* Each Lesson-paper consists of four printed pages of Notes, Suggestions and Questions, including (1) Inductive Notes, based upon the passage translated; (2) Grammatical Notes on the passage translated, with reference to the Principal's "Elements of Hebrew," to Gesenius' (Mitchell's Davies'), and Green's Hebrew grammars; (3) Principles of Syntax; (4) Lexicographical Notes; (5) General Questions on Geographical, Archæological and Exegetical points which come up in the Lesson; (6) Verses to be memorized; (7) Grammar-lesson; (8) Recitation-lesson.

4. *The Books.* (1) Hebrew Bible ($2.25); (2) "Elements of Hebrew," ($2.00); (3) Gesenius's (Mitchell's Davies') Grammar ($2.25), or Green's Grammar ($2.60); (4) Hebrew Lexicon (see above); (5) "Hebrew Vocabularies," ($1.25).

4. The Advanced Course.

The following announcements are to be noted:—

1. *Time.* This Course will begin February 1st, 1885. The delay in organizing this Course has been due to the great amount of work connected with the preparation of text-books for the other Courses.

2. *The Subject-Matter* of the Lessons will be the Poetical Chapters of the Pentateuch and the Book of Judges, including Genesis XLIX., Exodus XV., Deuteronomy XXXII., and XXXIII., Judges V.

3. A volume, now in preparation by the Principal, containing grammatical and exegetical notes on these passages, will form the basis of the work. These "notes" cover the important points of etymology, syntax, geography, archæology, history and criticism.

4. In addition to the study of the passages together with the "notes" upon that portion, regular and systematic attention will be paid to the subject of the Hebrew Tense, Driver's "Use of Tenses in Hebrew" being used as a text-book.

5. The subject of the *Accents* will form an important feature of the work, for it is certain that a knowledge of this subject is essential to any thorough work in exegesis.

6. Careful attention will also be given to the study of the characteristics of Hebrew Poetry.

7. The Lesson-paper sent each week to the student will (1) assign definitely the exact amount and order of the work to be done, and (2) furnish a Recitation-lesson which will be written out and returned to the Principal for examination, correction and suggestion.

8. Besides, (1) a Hebrew Bible, (2) Hebrew Lexicon, (3) Gesenius's Hebrew Grammar ($2.25), members of the Course will need (4) the Principal's Notes on the passages studied, ($2.00), (5) Driver's "Use of the Tenses in Hebrew," ($1.75).

Correspondence is invited from those who may be interested in the Course.

Address, *WILLIAM R. HARPER,*

MORGAN PARK, ILL.

C. OPINIONS.

WEST HALLOCK, ILL., Oct. 8, 1884.

It is surprising what rapid and thorough progress is possible to the student, in the study of Hebrew, by your methods in the Correspondence School.

REV. J. M. COTTRELL.

BRISTOL, N. H., Oct. 7, 1884.

With pleasure I testify to my appreciation of your methods of instruction in the Hebrew Correspondence School. Commencing as I did without any knowledge of the language I feel much gratified at the progress made in the time devoted to it, and heartily commend the School.

Yours truly,

REV. JOHN A. BOWLER.

MOUNT HOLLY, N. J., Sept. 27, 1884.

I consider Dr. W. R. Harper's work and method in the Hebrew Correspondence School a most valuable help to the thorough understanding of the Old Testament. I am using the Progressive Course, and new light breaks from the Word daily. I would suggest to pastors who have neglected their Hebrew to take it up again on this plan, and they will be refreshed, pleased, and profited. REV. H. F. SMITH.

SALISBURY, MD., Oct. 2, 1884.

Whoever cannot learn Hebrew in Prof. Harper's Correspondence School, is a hopeless case—so far as learning Hebrew is concerned. My opinion is, that the work done in this School is far more accurate and thorough than that usually done by face-to-face methods in Theological Schools. And why? Simply because *every syllable must here be written*, and *writing ensures accuracy*. REV. J. T. WHITLEY,

Pastor Trinity M. E. Church, South.

GLENBROOK, CONN., Oct. 1, 1884.

I have formed the highest opinion of your methods, and especially as to their practicalness in the case of pastors and others who can 'by hook or by crook' devote a few hours every week systematically to the work. My own interest in Hebrew has been greatly increased since my connection with the Correspondence School.

REV. EDWARD T. BROMFIELD.

TRENTON, N. J., Sept. 6, 1884.

My work in the Hebrew School has been "like the acquisition of a sixth sense." The work of two years has done two things for me. It has made thoroughly available the wealth of critical material, a knowledge of which is demanded of the ministry of our day, and it has systematized and doubled in efficiency my habits of study.

REV. W. W. LOVEJOY.

BRATTLEBORO, VT., Oct. 2, 1884.

Studying by Correspondence has seemed to me a "lame and impotent" process until desparate need drove me to the Hebrew School. Experience has met my desire and dispelled all doubts as to the feasibility of the method. Under Professor Harper's management, to "each his meat is apportioned in due season"—just what the student needs next to do and know is clearly shown, and the mind kept unembarassed by anything irrelevant. This is all that the adult student, who can drill himself, needs to make progress easy and rapid. I can assure all who wish to gain a knowledge of the Hebrew, sufficent for the intelligent reading of the abundant Old Testament literature of the time, and for the better understanding of God's Word, that here is an aid by means of which they can do more in one year than in five of independent effort.

REV. S. H. LEE,

HAMPDEN SIDNEY, Va.

Dr. Harper's Correspondence School is both a cause and an effect of the present great revival of interest in the study of Hebrew, and all who wish to maintain and widen that interest must hail this enterprise as a powerful ally. I have studied closely a portion of the Lessons and have examined with some care the whole Course, with the most distinct and beneficial results. In my judgment they afford better facilities for the acquisition and review of Hebrew than any system short of the instructions of a living teacher. And for thoroughness, accuracy and scope few teachers equal and none surpass him. PROF. W. W. MOORE.

TUSCALOOSA, ALA., Oct. 7, 1884.

Two years' experience in the Hebrew Correspondence School, conducted by Dr. Harper, enables me to speak intelligibly with reference to this most excellent system of instruction. In addition to my regular duties, which were all the while pressing, I have prepared the Elementary and Intermediate Courses, forty Recitation-papers in each, and twenty-seven of the Progressive Course.

Among the methods of instruction with which I am acquainted, I feel this to be the most satisfactory. It is complete, thorough and exhaustive. It is fraught with intense interest and real profit to everyone who enters into it with spirit and desire for success. I can now read any of the historical parts of the Hebrew Bible with ease and pleasure. I seek my Bible, Lexicon and Grammar not with repulsion but with delight, and while using them, feel that I am at home, in converse with a friend, and not endeavoring to talk with a stranger in an unknown tongue. REV. J. J. ANDERSON.

"Surely the minister of the Gospel, charged with God's message to man, should know that message at first hand, and for himself, and not be compelled to rely wholly upon translation and commentators and other men for its meaning."